ABSTRACT

METHOD FOR CONNECTING A FIRST USER-TERMINAL TO A SECOND USER-TERMINAL, RELATED DEVICES AND RELATED SOFTWARE MODULES

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The present invention relates to a method for connecting a first user-terminal to a second user-terminal over a network such as the internet. This network contains a plurality of user-terminals and a plurality of network access

10   servers where each of this plurality of user-terminals is coupled to a respective network access server of this plurality of network access servers.

If the second user-terminal connects to its respective network access server, this network access server sends connection information to the subscriber data server. At reception of the connection information the database

15   of the subscriber data server is updated with this connection information.

The subscriber data server handles an incoming call request from a first user-terminal in order to establish a connection between the first user-terminal that is connected to a first virtual private network and the second user-terminal that is connected to a second virtual private network. The subscriber

20   data server at first searches in its database for connection information of the second user-terminal and then determines the respective network access server that is connected to the second user-terminal based on the determined connection information. Then the second user-terminal is notified about the request for communication by the first user-terminal. The second user-terminal

25   initiates and controls a switch-over of the connection of the second user-terminal from the second virtual private network to the first virtual private network. The respective network access server of the second user-terminal switches the connection of the second user-terminal from the second virtual private network to the first virtual private network. Then at the switch-over of the

30   connection of the second user-terminal from the second virtual private network

to the first virtual private network there is also connection information sent by the adjacent respective network access server to the subscriber data server.